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206549
WE 003

March 10, 1997

The Honorable John Hirschi
State Representative
Post Office Box 2910
Austin, Texas 78768-2910

Dear John:

Thank you for your letter regarding funding for international family planning programs.

On February 28, I was pleased to sign legislation permitting the release on March 1 of funds previously appropriated for international population assistance programs administered by the U.S. Agency for International Development. In making these funds available without further delay, we are assuring that these programs will continue to serve the many millions of women and men who depend on them for their health and well-being -- and for their ability to plan their own futures.

As I continue working to shape a comprehensive strategy to improve women's health and station in life and to increase child survival rates, I appreciate your involvement.

Sincerely,

BILL CLINTON ^A

BC/KMB/RSM/bws
(3.hirschi.j)

(Corres. #3391512)

cc: IGA, 106

970313

[Handwritten signature]

DRAFT OF BC LETTER

INITIALS: BC / kmb / *PSM*

DOCUMENT TITLE: /slr/p/hirschi.j.kb

DRAFT DATE / LETTER DATE: Mar 04 1997 /

CORRESPONDENCE #: 3391512

CLEAR WITH:

WHCC:

CC: IGA, 106

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESSED TO:

The Honorable John Hirschi
State Representative
Post Office Box 2910
Austin, Texas 78768-2910

APPROVAL/ENCLOSURES/SPECIALINSTR:

wording mirrors slr/p/mcconnaughy.j.kb,
which is part of 3/4 sample. letter based
exactly on text of presidential statement
of Feb 28 that was issued

John
Dear John:

Thank you for your letter regarding funding for international family
planning programs.

On February 28, I was pleased to sign into law H.J. Res. 36. Approval of
this joint resolution permitted the release on March 1 of funds
previously appropriated for international population assistance programs
administered by the U.S. Agency for International Development. In making
these funds available without further delay we are assuring that these
programs will continue to serve the many millions of women and men whose
health and well-being -- and ability to plan their own futures -- depend
on family planning services supported by USAID.

As I continue working to shape a comprehensive strategy to improve
women's health and station in life, and to increase child survival rates,
I appreciate your involvement.

MAR 5 1997

I.G.A. CORRESPONDENCE ROUTING SHEET

Date Received in PLM: 2-24-97

Assigned to:

☒ Kyle Baker

☐ Sarah Freeman

☐ Diane Ikemiyashiro

☐ Leanne Johnson

☐ Tracy Sisser

RE: intl family planning programs

☐ SCHEDULING REQUEST - Forward to Megan Williams, Room 106

☐ PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATION - Forward to Ruth Eaglin, Room 158

☐ REQUEST FOR A PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE (letter of greeting for an event or proclamation) - Forward to Carmen Fowler, Room 91

m fowler



John Hirschi
State Representative
District 81

February 10, 1997

The Honorable William J. Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Clinton:

I am writing to you regarding an extremely important issue, about which I know you feel strongly, too. Let me begin by thanking you for your past support of international family planning issues and the strong stands you have taken in the face of controversy surrounding this issue.

As you know only too well, the FY 97 funding for these programs has been held hostage by adversaries in the Congress and cannot be released until July 1, 1997 unless you submit a finding outlining the "negative impact on proper functioning" of the program that would occur as a result. Upon submission of your finding by February 1, 1997, both Houses of Congress must vote to support the finding before February 28, 1997 in order to release the funding March 1, 1997 instead. While my immediate concern is the funding for international family planning programs, this "metering" restriction is a strategy the Congress might easily impose on any number of programs to cripple them slowly.

Please support the restoration of full funding for international family planning programs. These programs are successful, cost-effective, and the only access to critical reproductive health care for millions of women worldwide. Thank you for your support of this issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Hirschi".

John Hirschi
State Representative

Austin Office:
P.O. Box 2910
Austin, Texas 78768-2910
512-463-0534



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District Office:
3308 Kemp
Wichita Falls, Texas 76208
817-691-9160

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